

SENATE BILL 422

M3

11r2437
CF HB 411

By: **Senator Edwards**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2011

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Natural Gas Exploration and Production – Marcellus Shale Formation**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring, by a certain date, the Department of the Environment
4 to submit regulations to the Joint Committee on Administrative, Executive, and
5 Legislative Review regarding natural gas exploration and production in the
6 Marcellus Shale formation including certain matters; and generally relating to
7 the regulation of natural gas exploration and production in the State.

8 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
9 MARYLAND, That, on or before December 31, 2011, the Department of the
10 Environment shall submit regulations to the Joint Committee on Administrative,
11 Executive, and Legislative Review regarding natural gas exploration and production
12 in the Marcellus Shale formation, including requirements relating to:

13 (1) a water testing plan to ensure drinking water resources are
14 protected, including requirements for surface well casing, grouting, and inspections;

15 (2) the containment and disposal of fluid used in hydraulic fracturing
16 processes;

17 (3) the identification of all chemicals and materials used in hydraulic
18 fracturing processes;

19 (4) prohibiting the unregulated discharge of drilling materials and
20 fluids into streams, ponds, and other bodies of water for which the discharge has not
21 been approved by the Department; and

22 (5) site reclamation and bonding.

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
24 June 1, 2011.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

